

**Morgantown Parking Authority
Minutes for Regular Monthly Meeting
3:00 PM Wednesday, August 10, 2016
Public Safety Building Conference Room**

Present: Chairman Charlie McEwuen, Vice Chair Jeanne Hagan, Wes Nugent, and Director Tom Arnold

Not Present: Shane Mardis

Others Present: Dana McKenzie (MPA), Travis Henline, Nikki Lewis, and Barbara Watkins with Main Street Morgantown

Call to Order: Chairman McEwuen called the Meeting to order at 3:00 PM

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes for the June 8, 2016 were approved by a motion from Jeanne Hagan and second by Wes Nugent with unanimous approval.

OLD BUSINESS

Blue Curb Permit Program Renovation – Director Arnold reported that the Authority 2 meetings with neighborhoods on the Blue Curb Program. The first will be with South Park and the second meeting with Greenmont which is in the South Park Parking District. Greenmont wants to have their own District for identification purposes. The Director indicated that this will be problems for Greenmont because they do not have enough parking inventory to exist on their own.

Mr. Nugent asked about the visitor permit program and how it works in the Districts. Director Arnold explained that the visitor permit is a big problem with fraud and is very difficult to regulate. When Ms. Hagan asked about Evansdale District, the Director said it was not a problem until game days and that WVU was changing the Coliseum parking for basketball which would force more fans into neighborhoods for home games.

Board Member Replacement – A candidate is interested in joining the Board but has to get back with the Director.

Upgrade to Gate System and Software Program – The Director reported that the new gate system is going to cost \$600,000 which is actually less than the present system cost in 2002. Bar code system will be the basis for the new gate system which will be much more efficient and customer friendly to use. The new system will be an improvement for the permitting program.

Director Arnold pointed out that the funds are available and this project will mark \$10 million of capital improvements to parking facilities by the Parking Authority since the year 2000. All the improvements have been paid for by the Authority with no grants or tax dollars.

Enforcement software is another investment (\$140,000) that will help with permitting, vehicle identification, and roll the gate system into a package that will also improve customer services and a far better parking program management tool.

Authority Review of Parking Changes to go before City Council – Director Arnold started by Thanking Main Street Morgantown for their support of the Green Zone Parking program with City Council. The Director is confident that customers will not have any issues with the violations associated with this program. The enforcement is aimed at the “camping “ in the spaces all day.

The program will start on August 22 and flyers (professionally produced) will be distributed to all stakeholders in the Downtown. They should assure their customers it is for their benefit. Ms. Hagan wanted the MPA website updated to explain the Green Zone Parking program.

NEW BUSINESS

Review Bagging Meters for Thursday, Friday and Saturday Evenings for the Police Department – A local business owner asked that the Parking Authority to review the police request of bagging meters on High Street and Walnut Street. Ms. Hagan was concerned that the bags go on the meters too early and may interfere with the dining business.

Mr. Nugent was concerned with the lack of infrastructure to handle the crowds on the sidewalks. He was concerned with the safety of the pedestrians going between park cars and removing parked cars may have a positive effect for the safety of pedestrians.

The Authority decided to monitor the situation and would ask the police department to begin bagging later in the evening to address the problem with transition time to bagging the meters.

June 2016 Budget Performance Report – Director Arnold reported that the budget performance report is actually the fiscal year end report. The Director is concerned with the rising costs of credit card use in parking equipment and the actual costs of paving Lots E, G, and J in 2015. The paving bill was \$40,000 over budget. The fiscal year did end with \$86,000 surplus to be carried over.

Other Business – Travis Henline with Main Street Morgantown asked the Authority for support of art projects that would include wall murals and artwork on parking meters. He will be bringing detailed information to future meetings for the Authority’s approval.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 PM

Parking Authority Chairman

Parking Authority Director